Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But its state intention to force broadcasters to air a slanderous attack against Senator Kerry abuses the responsibility of media to remain even-handed and just in presenting the news, especially 90 days before a national election.

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them.

In this time of national crisis, citizens expect the FCC to be an impartial regulatory body not an arm of a political administration.